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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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CAROLYN DUNN LUKSZA & PATRICIA FOSER, INDIVIDUALLY AND ON BEHALF

TJX COMPANIES, Inc., a Delaware corporation,

d/b/a "TJ MAXX"; DOES I Through X; and Roe

Corporations I through X, inclusive,

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VS.

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OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED,

Plaintiffs,

Case No. 2:11 -cv-01359-JCM-GWF

<u>ORDER</u>

Motion to Seal Portions of Exhibit 3 (#108)

This matter comes before the Court on Defendant TJX Companies, Inc.'s ("Defendant") Motion to Seal (#108), filed on June 12, 2013. Plaintiffs Carolyn Dunn Luksza and Patricia Foser ("Plaintiffs") previously filed a Motion (#103) for leave to file their Opposition (#104) to Defendant TJX's ("TJX") Motion for Summary Judgement (#93) along with its accompanying exhibits under seal. The Court denied Plaintiffs' Motion (#103), finding Plaintiffs' general statements did not adequately set forth compelling reasons to seal the pleadings. *See June 7, 2013 Order, Doc. #106.* Defendant now moves to seal only Exhibit 3 to the Affidavit of Larson A. Welsh in support of Plaintiffs' Opposition (#104).

Defendants.

The Supreme Court has recognized a "general right to inspect and copy public records and documents, including judicial records and documents." *Nixon v. Warner Comm., Inc.*, 435 U.S. 589, 597 & n. 7 (1978). A narrow range of documents is not subject to the right of public access because the records have "traditionally been kept secret for important policy reasons." *Times Mirror Co. v. United States*, 873 F.2d 1210, 1219 (9th Cir. 1989). Unless a particular court record

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is one "traditionally kept secret," a "strong presumption in favor of access" is the starting point. Foltz v. State Farm Mutual Auto. Insurance Company, 331 F.3d 1122, 1135 (9th Cir. 2003) (citing Hagestad v. Tragesser, 49 F.3d 1430, 1434 (9th Cir. 1995)). The moving party must articulate compelling reasons supported by specific factual findings that "outweigh the general history of access and the public policies favoring disclosure." Kamakana v. City of Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006) (internal citations omitted).

Here, Defendant articulates compelling reasons to seal Exhibit 3 to Plaintiffs' Opposition (#104). Defendant represents that Exhibit 3 includes confidential information related to the development and implementation of its unique industrial engineering standards as well as its performance management program. Defendant further represents that Exhibit 3 contains confidential information concerning the discipline and leave of employees who are not parties to this litigation. The Court finds Defendant makes a showing sufficient to outweigh the policy favoring public access to the subject Exhibit. Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendant's Motion to Seal (#108) Exhibit 3 to the Affidavit of Larson A. Welsh in Support of Plaintiffs' Opposition is **granted**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiffs shall file an unsealed copy of their Opposition (#104) within 7 days of the date of this Order, excluding Exhibit 3, which will remain under seal.

United States Magistrate Judge

DATED this 17th day of June, 2013.

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